

## **“I Thirst for Living Water”**

**Prayer of Illumination:** Prepare our hearts, O Lord, to accept your word. Silence in us any voice but your own; that, hearing, we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (The Worship Book, 1970, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.))

**Scripture Readings:** Psalm 42:1-11; John 4:5-30

**Devotion (sermon illustration source unknown):**

Psalm 42 says, “As a hart longs for flowing streams, so longs my soul for thee, O God. My soul thirst for God, for the living God.”

Just as our thirst body craves water, so should our soul search for God. Unless our soul thirsts, we cannot seek God. When we are thirsty, we are so desperate for water that we seek nothing else. Likewise, when our soul is thirsty, we become so desperate that our whole being, our whole self, longs for God. Wherever we are and whatever we do, we have to think of water when we are thirsty. In the same way, when our soul thirsts we must give up everything in search of God. This kind of passionate search for God seems essential if we are to find God.

**Prayers of Intercessory and Supplication** (Ask people what they wish to pray for, briefly inquire about it, and pray for them. Ask them to join in your prayer.)

**The Lord’s Prayer (Say the prayer together with you leading):** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

**Blessing:** “The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord be kind and gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.” (Numbers 6:24-26)